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## **Press Release**

## Patterson District Ambulance Reaches Agreement with Union

**Patterson, CA, December 23, 2019** – Patterson District Ambulance, an operation of Del Puerto Health Care District, recently approved a four-year agreement with the Turlock Emergency Medical Services Association/United Steelworkers (TEMSA USW) Local 12-911 that will extend to September 2023

The contract provides an average of an 11% immediate wage increases plus a three percent COLA in each of the next three years. The agreement establishes a new Labor-Management Committee which will enhance communication on matters of mutual interest or concern such as improvements in efficiency, customer service, and general working conditions. The District and employees further agreed to a no strike, no lock out agreement to ensure paramedic ambulance service continuity in the greater Patterson area.

"This is a landmark agreement that provides a solid foundation for the future," said District CEO Karin Hennings.

Lee Almeida, President Local 12-911 commented, "Both parties dedicated hours of discussion and negotiation to secure the best possible contract in the best interest of both sides. TEMSA USW 12-911 and Patterson District Ambulance look forward to working together to ensure a positive working relationship."

"This agreement establishes wages and benefits that are competitive with other area ambulance providers and sustainable for the District," observed Director of Ambulance Operations Paul Willette.

Patterson District Ambulance responds to approximately 2,400 emergency calls for assistance each year that result in more than 1,600 transports to area hospitals. Paramedics and EMTs work 24-hour shifts living in the Ambulance Quarters while on duty and often spend eight hours or more of their shift assigned to emergency incidents or mutual aid coverage.

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Del Puerto Health Care District has been serving the community since 1949. The Del Puerto Health Care District Board has positioned the District to begin moving forward, ensuring that all aspects of the health continuum are considered for the communities of west Stanislaus County. We provide healthcare to the communities of Patterson, Westly, Grayson, Crows Landing and the surrounding rural areas. The District provides services through Patterson District Ambulance and the Del Puerto Health Center. More information is available at <a href="https://www.dphealth.org/">https://www.dphealth.org/</a>.